

# **Program Summary** **Department of Economic Security** **JOBS**

## **Program Overview**

The state JOBS program is administered by the Department of Economic Security (DES), and provides job training and other benefits to eligible job seekers. The mission of the program is to “provide eligible individuals with the opportunity to become economically independent through employment.” Eligible individuals include:

- Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) clients.
- Participants in the Food Stamp Employment and Training program.

All TANF cash assistance recipients must engage in some type of work activity, with a few exceptions for children, some disabled individuals, and certain primary caregivers. All able-bodied Food Stamp recipients must also participate in the JOBS program. JOBS provide case management for participants to offer and coordinate work activities. Qualifying JOBS program work activities include:

- Job search/job readiness activities
- Subsidized/unsubsidized employment
- On-the-job training
- Unpaid work experience
- Community service
- Up to 12 months of vocational education or training
- High school, GED classes, remedial education and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes for teen parents.

Additionally, support services are offered on an as-needed basis to help individuals participate in the program or accept employment. These services are offered through contracted third-party providers and include:

- Child care (through DES Child Care Subsidy program)
- Mental health counseling
- Shelter and utility assistance
- Vehicle repair/bus tickets and passes
- Relocation
- Tools and equipment
- Clothing
- GED testing

## **Program Funding**

In FY 2006 the JOBS program is funded mainly by TANF monies but also includes General Fund, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Grants and Special

Administration Fund monies. In FY 2006 the Legislature has provided total funding of \$22,942,300. While total funding is the same as FY 2005, the FY 2006 budget does represent a shift from the Job Training Fund, a means for temporary General Fund savings, back to the General Fund. FY 2006 also consolidated 3 Special Line Items - JOBS, Work-related Transportation and Job Search Stipends - into just the JOBS Special Line Item (SLI). FY 2006 represents a (24.6)% decrease in funding levels since FY 2001. FY 2001 was the highpoint of program funding and included one-time funding that represented a 58% increase over the FY 2000 funding level. *Table 1* displays historical funding information for the JOBS program by fund source.

**Table 1**

<b>JOBS SLI Funding History</b>			
<b><u>Fund</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2001</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2005</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2006</u></b>
General Fund	\$4,399,000	\$30,000	\$1,823,500
TANF	25,154,300	17,618,800	17,618,800
WIA Grant	0	2,000,000	2,000,000
Special			
Administration	887,200	1,500,000	1,500,000
Job Training Fund	0	1,793,500	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,440,500</b>	<b>\$22,942,300</b>	<b>\$22,942,300</b>

Funding in the JOBS SLI mainly includes funding for services. Funding for case managers (salary and benefits) are primarily funded through the Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services (DERS) operating budget. In FY 2005, the DERS operating budget was increased by \$3,500,000 for 65 additional case managers. *Table 2* shows the estimated expenditures for the JOBS SLI in FY 2006.

**Table 2**

<b>JOBS SLI FY 2006 Estimated Expenditures</b>	
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Job Training	\$13,792,200
Post-Employment Services	6,104,700
Case Management	2,713,200
Work-Related Transportation	302,200
Job Search Stipends	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,942,300</b>

## **Performance Measures**

*Table 3* includes the measures DES uses to assess the performance of the state’s JOBS program found in the Master List of State Government Programs. Of these only the number of TANF recipients who obtained employment is included in the General Appropriation Act.

Aside from the measures listed in the Master List of State Government Programs, DES also reports enrollment and placement figures in its monthly Management Indicators report. This report indicates that in FY 2005 there were 39,551 total participants

and 20,940 employment placements. Of those placements, 9,964 included medical benefits through their employment. The average wage at placement was reported at \$8.01. DES also reports a retention rate of 50.2% for FY 2005.

<b>Table 3</b>		
<b>State JOBS Program</b>		
<b>Performance Measures</b>		
<b><u>Performance Measure</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2004 Actual</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2006 Estimate</u></b>
Total number of unduplicated individuals who obtained employment	17,035	23,340
Number of unduplicated individuals who obtained employment (TANF)	16,765	23,040
Average cost per job per TANF participant in all work activities (in dollars)	461	790
Number of the TANF employment placements	20,185	26,280
Number of Food Stamp Employment and Training clients who obtained employment	270	300